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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY Austria Approved For Release 2006/03/03 : CIA-RDP82-00457R016100080002-7TOPIC Military Information from St. Poelten

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 12 December 1952

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 10 August 1952, only a small number of soldiers and no weapons or equipment were observed at the barracks installations on Schiesstattring in St. Poelten (O 59/W 88). The installations were guarded by three sentries with red-bordered black epaulets who were armed with submachine guns. Sedan [redacted] with an officer and a driver wearing red-bordered black epaulets was seen in front of the former Kreisgericht.¹
2. Two radio installations were observed about 1,500 meters west of the municipal forest; one of the installations was situated north and the other south of the road to Witzendorf (O 49/W 88). The radio installation about 200 meters north of the road consisted of a small wooden building and two van-like trucks. A double telephone line from the barracks installations on Schiesstattring was strung parallel to the Austrian postal lines and ended in one of the trucks. The other van-like truck was parked just east and had a wooden roof and an antenna, 4 or 5 meters high. The radio installation about 50 meters south of the road included 2 low, wooden barracks buildings painted white, 2 wooden sheds containing a motor vehicle each, 4 tents and an antenna mast, 8 to 10 meters high, which had two mooring lines of four insulated wires each. Two small parasol-type antennae were fixed in a frame antenna on top of the antenna mast. The radio installation was surrounded by a barbed wire fence, about 1.5 meters high, and guarded by a sentry with a submachine gun.²
3. A Soviet camp was identified at the corner of the north side of Purkerdorferstrasse and the west side of Muehlstrasse in the eastern section of St. Poelten. The installation consisted of a low wooden barracks building on a concrete base with 3 large sliding doors and 18 windows, and of another probably empty building situated northeast of the former. The installation was surrounded by a damaged fence, about 2 meters high. Three soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets, including two soldiers armed with submachine guns, were seen within the installation.¹

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4. Soldiers observed in St. Poelten included 2 lieutenant colonels (arty), about 35 MI, most of them wearing red-bordered black epaulets, some with tank insignia, and 2 MI of the electro-technical troops who wore light-blue bordered black epaulets with a crossed hammer and spade and a lightning-flash cluster as insignia.

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1. Comment. The observations indicate that the troops were absent from the post at present.

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2. Comment. As the radio stations are connected by telephone with the barracks installations on Schiesstattring, they are believed to be a radio center detached from a headquarters in St. Poelten.

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